

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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SOURCE:

1. The Commercial Department of the Eighth Main Administration, Ministry of Chemical Industry, was concerned with maintaining storehouses for the Ministry. In preparing for the storage of chemicals to be used by the civilian part of Czech industry (all military storage was handled by some other government agency, probably the Ministry of National Defense), three general categories of goods had to be considered.
2. The first category included those chemical goods which had to be available in practically every region, such as sulphuric acid, nitric acid, carbides, potassium and sodium dichromates, crystalline soda, tar and tar paper, and tires. The quantity of goods stored depended upon the needs of the region. The largest warehouses were maintained in Prague, Ostrava, Brno, Bratislava, Liberec, and Hradec Kralove. The location and description of all storage warehouses known to DS-534 as belonging to the Ministry of Chemical Industry will be covered in future reports.
3. The second category included certain goods which were stored only in some of the regions because of the smaller demand for them by the Czech economy. Lacquers and paints, for example, were stored only in the regions of Prague, Liberec, Brno, Ostrava, Jihlava, Karlovy Vary, Bratislava, and Banska Bistrica. The Commercial Department was moving, however, toward having every region equipped with storage facilities for all types of goods needed by the region, with the exception of such items as dyestuffs which require special and centralized supervision of distribution.

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4. Some of the regions had to be equipped to distribute chemical goods not only in large quantities but also in quantities less than 50 kg. in weight. There were five regional warehouses which supplied all 19 regions in quantities less than 50 kg. These five warehouses and the regions they supplied were the following:
 - a. Prague regional warehouse, which supplied the regions of Prague, Karlovy Vary, Pilsen, Budovice, Jihlava, and Pardubice. (The Prague regional warehouse was the only one equipped to store all categories of chemical goods and which did supply all regions with certain items.)
 - b. Liberec regional warehouse, which supplied the regions of Liberec, Usti nad Labem, and Hradec Kralove.
 - c. Ostrava regional warehouse, which supplied the regions of Ostrava and Zilina.
 - d. Brno regional warehouse, which supplied the regions of Brno, Olomouc, and Gottwaldov.
 - e. Bratislava regional warehouse, which supplied all the regions in Slovakia with the exception of Zilina.
5. In planning for the distribution of chemical goods, we had to take three basic factors into consideration:
 - a. The needs and requirements of the industry in each region had to be known in order to insure proper and adequate supply. For example, if a certain region had industries which consumed considerable amounts of sulphuric acid, the Eighth Main Administration had to store enough of this item in that region; conversely, if a region had little or no industry which used sulphuric acid, it was the responsibility of the Eighth Main Administration not to store large amounts of sulphuric acid in that region.
 - b. Careful attention had to be paid to the distance of storage warehouses from factories, inasmuch as the Eighth Main Administration paid transportation costs of chemical goods from various factories to its warehouses while the consumers paid transportation costs from the storage warehouses of the Eighth Main Administration to their respective factories.
 - c. We also had to consider the storage facilities in the various regions. For example, if a certain region, due to recent expansion of industry there, required certain chemical goods in quantities which exceeded the capacities of the warehouses in that region, the Eighth Main Administration had to determine the most economical and feasible means of supplying these factories. This usually entailed supplying that particular region from some other region, whereupon it had to be determined which other region would assume the extra burden of supply. In making such decisions we had to take into consideration such factors as the distances to other regional warehouses and their capacities.

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